

THINGS DOING IN LOUISIANA: THE SPIRIT OF PROGRESS

Can't Keep the Good Old Country Down—People Get Together and Talk About Things.

LOCAL WRITER TELLS ABOUT IT

One of the Backwoods Counties of the Old Dominion That Is Coming to the Front in These Latter Days When Progress is the Keynote.

BY CHRISTIAN GUILD.

The Spirit of Progress is like the wind of Holy Writ. "Bloweth where it listeth." We cannot tell from whence it comes, but suddenly we feel it, know that it has stirred something in us that makes us feel our kinship with the eternal.

It has touched the people down in that acute angle of Louisiana County where it borders Hanover on the east and Goodland on the south. Several neighborhood meetings have been held at Danbays, and the women have organized a "United Farm Women's Club." Recognizing the fact that they are only a "feebly folk" and can do very little by individual effort, they are reaching out into the neighboring counties and inviting them to help themselves.

A very pleasant and instructive meeting was held at Elpis Church, where the local branch of the Farmers' Union meets. Dr. McCoy, of Gum Spring, gave a splendid address on the benefits of organized co-operation, which was well appreciated by his audience. After pointing out the power that lies behind organized effort and the certain success of energy intelligently directed, he called attention to the comparative isolation of the farmer, who is not only isolated from the world, but from the fact that while the farmer is really the first essential to prosperous national life, he is the most helpless of any worker in getting value for his intelligent cooperation. It is the only way out—co-operation in buying and selling, co-operation in producing and marketing, co-operation in everything that is for the good of the community, and an intense recognition of the fact that the farmer is the only one who can afford to be indifferent to politics, not politics in the degraded use of the term, but politics in the sense of the science of government.

The speaker placed special emphasis upon the educational side of the movement. We need education and again education. Not a certain set of facts and figures drilled into our heads, but the way shown us how to think and reason, the desire to search for and find a cause when we see an effect, interest in good government, which is only another way of deducing democracy. No one can afford to be indifferent to politics, not politics in the degraded use of the term, but politics in the sense of the science of government.

The high ideals of democracy and brotherhood of man were next taken up, and the speaker closed with a quotation from Burke: "Then let us pray, that come it may, as come it will for a' that, When man to man the world o'er Shall brothers be for a' that."

The first half of a very special business of the meeting—organizing the women of that neighborhood—being satisfactorily disposed of, the rest of the time was taken up by a discussion upon the possibilities and uses of a local school for the use of these counties. This particular part of Louisiana County, chiefly owing to its physical formation and distance from the county seat, has been somewhat handicapped. The matter of school facilities, and practically has no social center. The idea was received with a great deal of enthusiasm, and the company pledged themselves to find out the best way to accomplish the end.

There is no doubt that a school such as suggested would be an immense benefit to the whole community. A school situated upon several acres of school property, with a resident principal able to teach and to practice some of the principles of agriculture, would be an influence and an inspiration for the future that could not be reckoned in mere dollars and cents. It is a great need of an isolated rural community is an ideal influence and an example, some one in touch with the foremost thought of the day and willing to interpret it to the almost white page of ignorance and of the world. When an advance would be made in this State, with all her wonderful resources, if our country schools were to be the importance in the scheme of things which they deserve.

If we were to dig down deep enough into the physiology of the present war in Europe, we would very possibly arrive at the real answer to the everlasting "why" in the homely phrase, "It is just the way the world is." The country school is the keynote to our national greatness. That which is taught and that which is neglected today will influence the whole nation in an extraordinary degree twenty years hence.

Small Hoosier Mill at Conts.
COATS, N. C. May 29.—The Coats Hoosier Mill is now installing the equipment of machinery to mill about 200 bushels of wheat to be the daily capacity. Its machinery includes a ten-horse-power gasoline engine, 41 knitters, 8 rollers, 6 rollers, press, screening machinery, etc., employing about thirty operatives.

Another Factory for Concord.
CONCORD, N. C. May 29.—The indications are that Concord is to have another thousand cotton factory. P. H. Haywood and W. B. Broadfoot, of the Brown Manufacturing Company, together with other Charlotte capitalists, are behind the plan. C. W. Johnston, of Charlotte, is to be the president of the new company.

MONTAGUE MILL WORK

You may remember Mr. Prospective Home Builder, the story of the English man who built his house upon the sand and the man who built his upon the rock.

In these modern times you can build your house being on a very particular about the rock, if you are careful. CUSTOM-MADE QUALITY MILL WORK for that new home you are about to have built. A SPECIAL KIND OF MILL WORK if you want to know where to find it in Richmond.

MONTAGUE MFG. CO.

Lumber and Millwork,
Broad Street and Belt Line

FORTUNE IN SIGHT FOR A MAN OF GREAT GENIUS

Fellow Who Can Invent Palatable Soft Drink That Will Meet Both Ends Has Fortune.

"What to drink is the problem that the English nation is facing at the present moment," declared the New York Sun, and then going on to argue, it proceeds to show that the extreme loyalists are following the example of the King and dispensing with alcohol in any shape, but the nation as a whole may be said to be sitting on the fence. It has well been said that you cannot make a nation sober by act of Parliament, and the same holds good of example, even the example of the highest in the land. There has never been a chance of prohibition. Curtailment of facilities, shortening of the hours during which liquor may be sold, a complete ban on spirits and a distinction of the strength of malt liquors—all these are within the bounds of possibility, are even probable, but there will be no prohibition. Of that there can be no possible doubt.

Even so, the problem of what to drink remains insoluble. The off-putting demand for a satisfactory temperance drink is more insistent than the usual temperance drink, so called, are not only unpalatable to people accustomed to the flavor of wine, beer and diluted spirits, they are actually nauseous.

Not only do they denounce them in a memorable passage:

"These terrible temperance drinks," he writes, "solutions of qualified sugar mixed with vast volumes of gas, as, for example, soda, seltzer, lemonade and the extinguishers and aerated waters, which they call such stuff in England—fill a man with wind and self-righteousness. Indeed, they do! Coffee destroys brain and kidney, a fact now universal; recognized and advertised throughout America, and tea, except for a kind of green tea best used with discretion in punch, taints the entrails and turns honest stomachs into leather bags."

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SOME INCREASING TRADE

War or No War, Our Folks Seem to Be Getting There One Way or Another.

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 29.—An increasing share of the imports and exports of the United States is being carried in American vessels. The total value of our imports and domestic exports in the eight months from August 1, 1914, to March 31, 1915, according to the records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce, was \$2,795,000,000, and of this sum \$355,000,000, or 12.64 per cent, was carried in American bottoms. The corresponding period one year earlier showed a total of \$2,590,000,000, of which \$248,000,000, or 9.54 per cent, was carried in American vessels.

The proportion of our domestic exports transported in American bottoms rose from 6.57 per cent in the eight months ending with March, 1914, to 10.25 per cent in a like period ending with March, 1915, while of the imports the proportion brought in American vessels increased from 10.73 per cent to 16.66 per cent.

An interesting feature of our trade during the period of the European war is the increased value of cargoes carried by each vessel. Thus our exports in American vessels rose from \$111,700,000 in the eight months ending with March, 1914, to \$178,700,000 in the corresponding period of the current year, an increase of 60 per cent, during which time the tonnage of American vessels cleared in the foreign trade decreased 5 per cent, and, while there was a decrease of less than 1 per cent in the tonnage of foreign vessels, the net tonnage of these vessels decreased 10 per cent.

Kenbridge, Va.

Largest and best town of the great Virginia Railway between Suffolk and Roanoke. In center of bright tobacco region. Four tobacco warehouses. Ample banking facilities. Ideal location for wood-working plants, such as spokes and handles, furniture factories, barrel, stave and box factories, and some others that will be told about if you will drop a line asking for information of the

Kenbridge Business Men's Association

W. S. Irby, President. Carl T. Ripberger, Sec'y-Treas.

CHASE CITY, VIRGINIA

"The Biggest Town for Its Size in the State"

Exceptional opportunities for the home-seekers, the manufacturer or business man. Chase City has electric lights, water and sewer systems, paved streets, macadamized roads, good schools, good churches, good health records, money-making manufacturing plants, and wants more.

Write to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Geo. B. Craven, Secretary. R. L. Jeffreys, President. CHASE CITY, VIRGINIA.

ALBERTA

TWO RAILROADS, COMPETING FREIGHT RATES AND PASSENGER RATES AS WELL.

In last six months things have come to pass. New mill, new hotel, new stores, new residences and homes, new enterprises of the pay-roll making kind, and some other things that are new.

For further information as to Industrial Sites, Farm Lands, etc., write to the ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT CO., Alberta, Virginia.

CHARLES S. BARROW, President. J. E. CRAFTON, Jr., Vice-President. D. T. KENNEDY, Secretary.

FINANCIAL CONDITION ALL DOWN IN THE SOUTH

As the Experts See Things in Dixie Land—They Look Very Bright and Brightening.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

Good Work That Has Been Done and Great Deal More of It Yet to Be Done—Some Other Facts to Be Considered.

This seems to be a good time to make inquiry concerning basic conditions in all parts of the United States, especially in the southern part thereof. The Industrial Section of The Times-Dispatch has been making some of these investigations for a long time past, and within these last days some other industrial organizations have taken on to the Industrial Section's idea.

A great financial organization, one that makes a specialty of making money and trust loans on lands in the South, generally, and Virginia and North Carolina in particular, has been studying up on the situation. It is a study of gratification that this financial combine has been getting the most of its information from the Industrial Section, and, judging from the report of directors, it has a great lot of faith in what it thus gathers.

So, all that it may, it reports to its home offices somewhat as follows:

SOME THINGS DOING

IN THE MEANTIME In the southeast conditions are generally good, but until recently have been retarded by lack of rain. The cotton acreage and fertilization is reduced, but with greater diversifications. In the Southwest conditions are very good, with increased diversification, satisfactory prices and the outlook. Conditions in the Pacific Northwest are good, with satisfactory prices and a hopeful outlook, but present movement is restricted by lack of vessels.

Prices are high and conditions excellent in the intermountain region, and the outlook is very good, while in the North Central and Middle West conditions are generally satisfactory, with increased grain acreage, high prices and very favorable outlook.

FINANCIAL SITUATION DOWN

IN THE SOUTHLAND

In the Southeast the financial situation has improved, although still slightly below normal, while in the Southwest the situation is favorable. In the North Central and Middle West more Eastern paper is being bought in that section than previously. In the intermountain country the situation is sound, with increasing deposits, while in the Pacific Northwest, where conditions are sound and improving, with deposits running very high.

The effect of the operation of the Federal reserve system, as indicated by the reports from the sections referred to, seems to have been to promote confidence—to be steady and helpful—to afford a better feeling of security, and to provide a valuable auxiliary, particularly in emergencies.

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REAL ESTATE CLAIMS, MORTGAGE

DEALS AND SOME OTHER THINGS

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MANUFACTURING AND RETAIL

TRADE CONDITIONS

Manufacturing in the Southeast is generally fair and improving, but conditions are mixed. Expanded consumer have caused dullness in the retail trade.

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

VIEWS AND NEAR-VIEWS: HINTS AND SUGGESTIONS

By FRANK S. WOODSON, Industrial Editor.

This column is open to contributors who have something to say of a suggestive nature, and who are willing to make hints and suggestions looking to the better development of the good old States of Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina, and who can hold their suggestions down in any one issue to from 150 to 200 words. Such communications, addressed to the Industrial Editor, will receive prompt attention.

Review and Outlook.

R. C. Dun & Co.'s special local report is as follows:

On the whole, mercantile conditions continue to improve, although the uncertainty as to the European situation and the broadening scope of the war have retarded development in some lines. This is particularly true of dyes and other European imports.

Some factories have increased their working hours; most concerns who are manufacturing gunnison, projectiles and other war munition are working twenty-four hours.

Retail trade has improved with the higher temperature and is nearer normal than for some months.

Rain is still much needed, although showers in the immediate neighborhood have greatly relieved the truck situation, affording a fair offering of early vegetables at local markets.

The showing of Richmond banks is exceptionally gratifying. National banks show considerable gain in loans, discounts and deposits, while the week's rediscuts, with the local branch of the Federal Reserve bank are more than \$1,000,000.

Richmond bank clearings for the week were \$9,212,459.

And Still Another.

As to Richmond and vicinity, Bradstreet's says:

Especially potent feature marks the week's trading; the volume of trade is slightly below the average for the season. A noticeable feature evidenced is the large number of small orders for immediate shipment; most retailers continuing to be very conservative in placing orders for future delivery.

Shipments of strawberries continue in large volume, though prices show some decline. Rains have benefited crops throughout the district. However, the hay and winter crop will be short because of dry weather in April. About an average acreage of tobacco will be planted. Present estimates are that a reduction of 20 per cent will be made in the acreage of cotton planted. Retail trade is fair, and dealers anticipate exceptionally good trading next week because of the large number of visitors expected here, occasioned by the "Confederate Veterans' Reunion."

Conditions continue to improve, but show some improvement. Labor is now well employed in this locality, and few are necessarily idle. The demand for farm labor is unusually great.

One of the Kentucky Ways.

Here is a hint worth thinking about:

A commercial club down in Kentucky has appropriated a sum of money to be given as prizes among the residents of a certain section of the country for the best-kept lawns and the best display of farm and garden products. The idea of the club is to induce the people living in that section to improve their surroundings and beautify their premises. It believes in the value of keeping up appearances and that there is a profit in beautification which rural communities are not apt to appreciate. This organization thinks there are many rural homes that could be greatly improved in appearance by neatly-kept lawns, attractive shrubs and well-cultivated gardens, and has come to the conclusion that timely attention given to details of this character, by the farmer would not only vastly improve the appearance of his place, but stimulate his interest in the success of all his crops.

Swat the Rooster, Too.

A very interesting journal that goes by the name of "American Farming" has this to say:

"Swat" the rooster. The summer season is coming on and with it the question of the quality of summer eggs. "Swat" the rooster campaigns have (Continued on Ninth Page.)

Things Worth Knowing and Things We Can Tell

VIRGINIAN-SEABOARD REALTY COMPANY.

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OLD DOMINION INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

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West Point, Va. (Port Richmond).

FOR SALE

Creamery Property

A first-class building, sided up with number one German-siding, covered with strictly heart cypress shingles, ceiled with 3/4 clear material and with fine cement floor throughout, located on a lot 70 x 150.

There is a complete outfit as to machinery, including a fifteen-horsepower boiler and engine. This machinery was all new when installed, and was used only a month or so. Whole thing cost over \$5,000. Can be bought now for \$1,500, if operated here, and I am willing to take one-third of the purchase price in stock, and name extremely easy terms of payment on balance. For the house and lot alone to be used as bottling works, price is only \$1,000. Population of Lawrenceville 2,500. Lot near depot and well located otherwise. Well on premises, and city water can be had if wanted.

L. H. IRANEY.

P. O. Box 145, Lawrenceville, Va.

VIRGINIA'S ORCHARDS AND ORCHARD BLIGHT

Some Facts About the So-Called Blight—An Expert's Views as to the Disease.

HAVE WE REALLY THE DISEASE?

Some Orchardists Think Not; Others Listen to the Experts—All Are Agreed That if Disease Is Here It Should Be Hit.

Orchardists in Virginia and elsewhere

are now much concerned about a disease that is attacking trees in many orchards, and C. H. Crabill, assistant pathologist at the experiment station, located over at Blacksburg, gives some points about the disease. The information he gives should prove valuable in controlling the blight before further damage is done. Mr. Crabill writes a special letter to the Industrial Section: Did you, Mr. Farmer, or Mr. Orchardist, ever see an apple tree on which about two weeks to a month after blooming a large majority of the fruit burst and twig tips appeared to be burned, or, at least, singed? As a matter of timely interest to those who have seen it, it is desirable to discuss the whys and wherefores of this condition. We may call this disease "twig blight" and take up in order the symptoms, cause, transmission and control of the malady.

Symptoms—Twig blight appears in spring two weeks to one month after blossoming. The leaves on twig tips burst and twig tips appear to be burned, or, at least, singed. The fruit gradually turn black, resulting, finally, in the complete blackening and death of all branches and spurs upon which infected clusters are borne. In some instances scarcely a flower tip on an infected tree is free from this general attack. The disease progresses downward, killing the leaves and twigs in the course of some weeks, the branches are killed back a foot or more from the tips. The leaves are by that time dry, black and leathery, adhering tenaciously to the twig. The tip of the twig is usually bent in the form of a shepherd's crook.

JUST WHEN SYMPTOMS BEGIN TO DIE OUT

On most varieties of apples the disease ceases to spread by midsummer, many of the dead twigs fall away during the following winter and the next spring the performance is repeated. On a few, however, such as Ben Davis and Grimes, the blight may extend downward into the large limbs, or even into the trunk, killing all tissue as it goes. In general, trees appear to have been scorched by a hot blast.

Cause—Twig blight is a bacterial disease caused by a minute germ known to science as bacillus amylovorus. This is the same organism as that which causes the widespread and destructive pear blight or fire blight of pear trees, the collar blight or some varieties of apples and the twig blight of quinces. As we shall see, this germ is transmissible from one to the other of these fruit trees, and on each it produces the characteristic blight.

Transmission—It is a notable fact that young apple trees very rarely have twig blight. Only those trees which are old enough to bloom contract the disease, and usually the great amount of the bloom the worse the twig blight. The reason for this is that the infection of the apple tree occurs through the blossoms. The germs which give rise to the twig blight are carried by insects, principally by bees, from diseased wood blighted the previous year. The bacteria winter over, in relatively few affected branches, under conditions where moisture is sufficient and protection from drying is adequate.

HOW THE THING GETS BURN IN SPRING

It is from such diseased wood or "hold-over cankers" that the disease is spread in spring. At the beginning of (Continued on Ninth Page.)

For Sale—Passenger and Freight Steamer

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Engines; carries 450 passengers;

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IRONWORKERS' MEETING; TALKFEST ENDS MILDLY

Time for Talking and Time for Action. Iron Industry in Limelight.

The American Iron and Steel Institute is just now holding a meeting in New York. It may be that the meeting was closed last night. But, be that as it may, the meeting was held at a time and under conditions unprecedented in the history of the iron and steel trade. Since its first formal meeting in October, 1910, the gatherings of the Institute twice a year have come to be regarded as having an important bearing upon the material progress of the country. In active membership represents an industry which has increased the value of its annual output of primary manufactures since 1870 from \$300,000,000 to \$1,500,000,000. The meetings have attracted the great leaders of the industry not only in the United States, but in foreign lands, and the proceedings have included not merely technical papers of special interest to the members, but more general papers or informal speeches of profound interest to the whole country. At this week's New York meeting, there will be presented but five technical papers, all by men in active membership of the Institute. President Elbert H. Gary, in his opening address, and what he may say will undoubtedly be heard with profound interest. Second in importance only to President Gary's address will be, perhaps, the paper on welfare work of the Tennessee Coal and Iron and Railway Company, a line of activity to which the United States Steel Corporation and its subsidiaries have devoted much time, energy and money in recent years. The corporation is now spending something more than \$7,000,000 a year for accident relief, accident prevention, sanitation and welfare, pensions, additional benefits, etc., and at the Panama-Pacific Exposition it has an exhibit divided into fourteen parts, showing organization, safety, first aid and rescue, voluntary accident relief, hospitals, sanitation, mill restaurants and lunchrooms, housing, gardens, district and visiting nursing, recreation, education and other phases of welfare work.

Mortgages of the Ancient Type.

Land is the primitive wealth. And the oldest investment in the history of the world is the real estate mortgage. Throughout Mesopotamia, Babylon and Assyria are found the records of realty loans. When King Khammurabi reigned in Babylon 2,300 B. C., money was loaned on mortgages. In 600 B. C. was founded the great Babylonian banking house of the Cass family, which controlled the investment of large amounts in mortgages on both city and farm property.

Mortgages were recorded on baked bricks. The original safety deposit boxes were huge earthenware jars. These were buried in the ground. As they are dug up by archaeologists of the present time they unfold the conditions of the real estate market of that distant time. There is nothing new under the sun in realty procedure.

More Development at Spray.

SPRAY, N. C. May 29.—An investment of \$50,000 for additional buildings, machinery, etc., is planned by the Thread Mills Company, of Spray. The immediate developments include a bleachery, electric plant of 3,000-horse power, five art mill of 400 to 600 box looms each of Spray, and wide sheeting mill of 1,000 looms at Deater, N. C.

Harvesting Machinery

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The Virginian Realty Company

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ALL KINDS OF FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

Just now immediate demands require quick sale of 337-acre Farm, located in Brunswick county, on good road that is to be improved, in good white neighborhood with the very best social conditions obtaining; school on the place and high school three miles; churches three, four and five miles; five and six miles of two railroad towns, and ten miles to three other large markets. The place is ideally located for the public road for wire and cedar posts; one-third clear and good state of fertility; soil is a red to chocolate ash in some portions a gray loam, suited to bright tobacco and other crops.

There is a great bargain here for the man who makes quick response. Address CARL T. RIPBERGER, Manager, Kenbridge, Va.

Then Why Not Waverly, Va.

With its banking facilities, modern schools, good churches, electric lights, paved streets throughout the town, mineral springs nearby. Two railroads—competing freight rates. Finest climate in the world.

Special inducements offered to new enterprises, particularly of the wood-working kind.

Small farms near town at reasonable prices. For information address ROBERT W. ARNOLD, Mayor and Chairman Publicity Committee.

H. A. Gray, President of Town Council.

Kenbridge Business Men's Association

W. S. Irby, President. Carl T. Ripberger, Sec'y-Treas.

CHASE CITY, VIRGINIA

"The Biggest Town for Its Size in the State"